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SOVIET UNION MILITARY-ECONOMIC REPORT

BASED ON DOMESTIC RADIO TRAFFIC

Dated: 2, 3, and 5 March
1943

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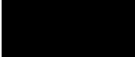
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PREFACE

During the Second World War the German Signal Intelligence Control Center of the Staff of the Chief of Army Signal Service (HNS, LNA) issued a series of reports to show the USSR military-economic situation as reflected in Russian internal plain language traffic. These reports appeared at short, irregular intervals, usually six per month, for the period October 1942-March 1945. Eighty-three of these reports have been translated and issued by [REDACTED] FOIA b3

It is planned to issue a complete set of translations of the reports beginning with the most [REDACTED] and working backward, but omitting those already translated by [REDACTED]. The numbering of the items was added by the translator since the Germans did this only in the last eighteen reports, [REDACTED] inclusive. Since the original material was in Russian, an effort has been made when translating the German to determine the original Russian term wherever possible. This is facilitated by the Russian fondness for abbreviations. In these translations into English the probable meaning of the abbreviation will be given in parenthesis the first time it occurs in each report. FOIA b3

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2, 3, and 5 March 1943

The Soviet Union

Military-Economic Report

(Based on domestic radio traffic)

2 March 1943

More important reports: none.

Personnel Situation

1. Moscow complained to NKRF in Krasnoyarsk and Ulan-Ude that the training of ski troops within those shipping lines was not carried out in the course of the 20-hour program.

Food Situation

2. NKRF-Ulan Ude is directed to permit the workers of the River Fleet to maintain for their own gardens the same land area as in the past year.
3. NKRF-Kujbyshev must unload the scheduled grain quantities from tugs 411, 1020, 208, and 1460 in the amount of 1.7 tons and determine the use possibilities of grains for the River Fleet.

Metal Supply

4. NKRF-Moscow shipped a large quantity of white metal 83 to the Enisej River Fleet.
Moscow inquired whether NKRF Kujbyshev received from Factory No. 643 the non-insulated wire and cable. NKRF-Kujbyshev received permission to use a set of flame tubes for boiler repairs.
5. NKRF-Kujbyshev received the allotted one ton of wire nails in the first quarter for ship repairs.
6. The NKRF plant in Kujbyshev received 50 tons of cast iron from the plant in Magnitogorsk.
7. NKRF-Saratov received the allotted 2 tons of wire nails in the first quarter for ship repairs.
8. NKRF-Ufa received one ton of wire nails from the River Fleet Supply in Gorkij for ship repairs.

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Material Supply

9. Two tons of explosives are ready for an NKRF plant in Ust-Usa. For covering and transporting this powder it is necessary to have the permission of the local militia directorate.
10. The paper "Water Transport" in Astrakhan received 0.5 ton of newsprint in Kujbyshev.
11. The Volga-Timber Construction Direction in Kujbyshev must deliver to the ship repair yard there 5000 boxes of special packing.
12. NKRF-Astrakhan received from the Chief Directorate for Light Industry the complete delivery for "Volgatanker" of 50 pairs of boots.
13. The River Fleet Supply in Gorkij must ship to "Volgatanker" in Astrakhan 150 pairs of felt boots.

Oil Supply

14. NKRF Irkutsk complained that the Chief Directorate for Oil did not guarantee the delivery of the full quantity of lubricants in the first quarter. The January limits were completely cancelled. On the basis of the February limit there was delivered:

Machine oil	0.4 ton
Axle oil	0.033
Cylinder oil "2"	0.005
Viscosine	0.333
Avtol "6"	0.1
Cylinder oil	0.065
Avtol "10"	0.899

15. NKRF Uralsk received via Krasnovodsk from the Chief Directorate of Oil Supply

Crude fuel oil	30 tons
Motor oil	50 tons

Coal Supply

16. NKRF-Krasnoyarsk requests the NKRF in Moscow to extend the completed transfer of 5000 tons of coal in Podkunino until 10 March. The transfer depends on the availability of 10 railroad cars for transport which must be obtained by NK for Transportation. Otherwise the danger exists that the fleet will be without coal.

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Production

17. In Ust-Usa the methods with respect to an improvement of the repair work on the self-propelled ships were not followed.

18. From a message from Moscow to NKRF-Yakutsk, it is to be noted that the cost of building two tugs of 50 tons each in the amount of 210000 rubles in Osetrovo is considered as an increase.

Reconstruction

19. NKRF-Stalingrad must dismantle from one of three tugs which must be raised the hand winch, crane, and mechanical ship fittings and find use for these on other vessels. The NKRF enterprises in Astrakhan, Kujbyshev, Gorkij, Molotov, Ufa, and Saratov must submit to the NK lists of persons from the Dnepr who were evacuated to their steamship agencies. NKRF-Astrakhan must list the persons evacuated by the Northwest Steamship Agency and give the wintering places of the following ships: "Tretij---", "Shlisselburg", "Armenia" and "Ukraine". The fifth ship lifting department is located in Kalach on the Don. NKRF-Kujbyshev must report whether gas motor ship No. 17 has been delivered to the Military Reconstruction Directorate.

20. NKRF-Saratov must report whether gas motor ship No. 73 has been delivered to the Military Reconstruction Directorate.

Transport Situation

21. NKRF-Krasnoyarsk requests the NKRF in Moscow to let 30 tons of freight and the people necessary for Timber Procurement be transported by plane to the wintering places.

Miscellaneous

22. The ship "Krasnaya Zvezda" was granted a bonus of 5000 rubles by NKRF-Khabarovsk for the showing of the best personnel.

23. The Yakutsk wharf of NKRF was granted a bonus of 10000 rubles for the production competition of January. The chief of the wharf is to receive a bonus amounting to a month's salary, the rest is to be bestowed on the best personnel. According to a message from Moscow to Omsk-NKRF, the inspection stamp of the Moscow militia is not necessary for an attachment for Moscow.

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3 March 1943

More Important Reports

24. From a message from Moscow to the various offices of NKRF, it is indicated that river vessels have been obligated to support the Red Army to expand its self-sufficiency with provisions and to waive the central supply of fish, potatoes, and vegetables on behalf of Land Defense. They are agreed to cutting down meats, fats, and grains by 50%. This very significant obligation was published on 26 February in Pravda. To carry out this project detailed instructions were given. These measures must guarantee unconditionally an increase of the delivery plans established for 1943. An attempt is to be made to obtain an additional allotment of land and vegetable seeds.

Personnel

25. Gurev-NKRF needs only 20 boiler-smiths and asks Moscow to discontinue sending more people.

26. Saratov-NKRF must establish Group 25. The divers must travel with the trucks and the others by train. To complete the personnel complement for work shops in Kalach-NKRF, 141 persons will be employed.

Of these there are:

Motor mechanics	19
Mechanics	16
Smiths	6
Electrical mechanics	7
Turners	5
Boiler smiths	2
Carpenters	10
Other workers	75

34 men are employed in ship-raising work.

ReconstructionStalingrad-NKRF

27. The transmission of an administration decree is requested, since the supply of engine fuel can not otherwise be decided. The divers have not yet arrived at the Don. Proclamation alone is not enough, since no workers can be transferred from the places in question.

28. The state of the lifting work on the following ships was announced:

"Maksim Gorkij"
"Krasnoe Znamya"

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also the towed barges:

"Vozkhod"
".....dk 18"

and a flat freight boat with a tonnage of 40 tons.

29. The NKRF is requested to send people to Kalach who know the station and the details of the ships. Among others, Captain Globov of the "Karl Libknekht" was named.
30. On assignment from NKRF, Aral Sea detached 3 Don-Kuban workers to Kalach on the Don.
31. Moscow NKRF complained that the documents concerning the ships sunk in Stalingrad Rajon are not satisfactory. Descriptions of the sketches are lacking.

Production

32. Order #34 of the NK with respect to lifting the fleet by divers until the beginning of the ice break-up is still maintained. The lifting of ships found on the banks which likewise require divers has been assigned to crews of the ships of "Volgatanker".
33. Kamyshin NKRF reports that the ship "Belostok" was delivered to the second ship-lifting department in February.
34. It appears that ships have been reported by the yards as ready which have not yet been tested as to the quality of the repairs carried out. Moscow urged Molotov-NKRF to test the completed ships in the presence of production management and ship's command.
35. A Deutz-Motor aggregate was repaired in Kalach-NKRF for pumping out the raised ships. Two additional Deutz-Motors must be mounted likewise with pumps after the completion of repairs. Two centrifugal pumps have been repaired. In addition two internal combustion engines are being repaired.

Miscellaneous

36. In March two holidays have been established for the NKRF enterprises and four holidays for the workshops in Alekseevka and Kryushin.

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5 March 1943

More Important Reports

37. From radio messages of the Civil-Air Fleet it was indicated that there is an airport in Sverdlovsk. The personnel complement for the airport has been reduced by letting a number of mechanics and technicians go.
38. In a message to Tiflis a 9th Flight Regiment was named, whose commander is probably The earlier reported Zegedin. Zegedin Flight Group (see report of 27 February) is probably identical to this regiment.
39. Thirty-six communications personnel, whose deferment has been cancelled will be sent to Maikop to fill the 12th Battalion. Sixteen men came to Mineralnye Vody to fill the 1st Battalion. Additional men have not yet been made available.
40. Of 1242 responsible officials of the party of the Georgian Republic, 767 or 62% Russian-speaking workers were called into the Army before the others during the war. 118 positions in the Georgian party organization are vacant at the present time.

Personnel Situation

41. According to a message from NKRF-Gorkij, 50 special workers are required for ice-breaking work for the protection of the fleet in the harbor of Vasilsursk. In Yaroslavl, Kostroma, and Dzerzhinsk workers for ice-breaking are lacking. The following are requested:

for Kostroma	50 men
for Isad	25 men
for Sursk	50 men

42. In March the workers in the NKRF-workshops received two free days. NKRF-Irkutsk was directed to mobilize transport workers for the Steamship Agency in its Oblast': from urban areas, 25 men and from rural areas, 50 men.

43. NKRF-Novosibirsk must mobilize transport workers for the Steamship Agency in its Oblast':

from urban areas	75 men
from rural areas	75 men

44. The wharf of Novosibirsk must obtain 250 men and that of Tomsk 50 men.

45. In a message to NKRF-Chardzhou the River Steamship Agency in the Turkmen Republic was directed to procure transport workers:

from urban areas	50 men
from rural areas	50 men

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46. The wharf Farab must obtain 200 men.
47. During the period of winter ship repairs the following courses will be given:
- | | |
|-------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 21 Feb. - 25 Apr. | 12 captains' assistants; 17 captains |
| 5 Feb. - 25 Mar. | 18 captains' assistants |
| 12 Feb. - 1 Apr. | 12 mechanics |
| 27 Feb. - 25 Mar. | 25 appraisers and stockkeepers |
48. In the section of Khodzhelinsk the following will be trained:
- | |
|--------------------------------------|
| 20 captains |
| 25 boatmen |
| 103 mechanics and mechanics' helpers |
49. All this training takes place in and around Chardzhou. The teachers will be furnished from Ili Steamship Agency.

Food Situation

50. The Bacteriological Institute in Tiflis has no barley. The horses arrived.
51. Allotments for an NKRF plant in Gurev in the first quarter:

	<u>Allotted</u>	<u>Received</u>
Meat	17.5 tons	9.19 tons
Fish	7.5	6.5
Vegetable fat	2.3	
Animal fat	4.2	
Sugar	1.5	
Bakery products	3.7 (?)	

52. NKRF-Gurev asks Moscow to induce the Trade Commissariat of Kazakhstan to deliver more supply orders for Gurev.

Metal Supply

53. Tiflis. It was communicated to "Tsentroutil" Moscow that the following were procured:

Nonferrous Metal	6 tons
Aluminum	1.274

54. To guarantee the continuation of work in the Saltredsker factory the grant of 30 tons of cast iron and 2 tons of pickled iron is necessary. The Oil and Fat Sales collected 0.8 ton of scrap iron in the first quarter. The scheduled amount of 5 tons can not be raised for lack of assembly workers.

55. Plant "Generator" must receive in March from the sixth factory of the ... -Aviation Industry 0.4 ton of black aluminum. From the factory in Serovo (Oblast' Fergana) there was shipped to "Generator" on 27 January:

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Round steel 12 mm.	Mark 45	1760 tons
Round steel 14 mm.		3180
6 Cant iron 11 mm.		3860
Cant iron 14 mm.		3220
Cant iron 17 mm.		2
Cant iron 19 mm.		3020
Cant iron 50 mm.		3020

56. The shipment for the first quarter is completed as of 25 February. The Perfume Industry delivered the following scrap material for the first quarter on 1 March:

Iron	2 tons
Nonferrous metals	0.015

57. According to a report of the Chief Directorate for Metal Sales, Factory #316 must receive:

Construction sheet metal	3 tons
Instrument sheet metal	0.2
Miscellaneous	0.85

58. The ore mine reported to the Chief Directorate for Gold in Moscow that it expedited 1550 tons of quicksilver ore and produced 0.04 ton of metal as of 20 February.

59. It was reported to the NK for the Aviation Industry in Moscow that the Chief Directorate for the Iron Trade delivered in the third ten days of February Scrap iron 39385 tons and since the beginning of the month Scrap iron 113585 tons; moreover, from the second smelter in the third ten days of February to the Chief Directorate for Nonferrous Metals Trade Aluminum 11501 tons and since the beginning of the month Aluminum 1632 tons, in addition in February poor quality scrap, 4 tons.

60. Erivan received 0.5 ton of lead and 1 ton of tin.

61. The Manganese Trust in Chiaturi shipped to... Molotov Oblast' on 25 February Peroxide, 5 cars and in addition on 15 February Peroxide, 60 tons and on 27 February Peroxide 40 tons.

62. For the shipment of manganese ore from the Trust in Chiaturi to the "Iron Works" in Zestafoni there were made available 300 cars and shipped 15 cars.

63. Moscow requests from NKRF-Molotov seamless pipe, 14 items, 40x32, each 5m. long.

64. NKRF-Molotov must send to the factory in Chistopol from the stock of "Staryj Burlak" factory thin pipe, 250 meters.

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65. Moscow requests from NKRF-Kujbyshev seamless pipe, 14 items, 40x45, each 5m. long.
66. Moscow asks why NKRF-Novosibirsk did not buy the following amounts since the stocks were cancelled:

Screws	1 ton
Bronze	2 tons
Copper	0.2 ton
Ferrosilicon	5 tons
Ferromanganese	1.5 ton

67. In the first two quarters of the year Novosibirsk must deliver according to plan scrap, 100 tons.
68. Moscow shipped to NKRF-Khabarovsk wire, 4mm., 0.4 ton.
69. There is no 8 mm. wire in Moscow.
70. There must be delivered according to plan

Khabarovsk	scrap	100 tons
Blagoveshchensk	scrap	60 tons

71. NKRF-Khabarovsk confirmed once again a supply in the amount of nails, 3 tons.
72. In addition Khabarovsk must receive screws, 0.2 ton.

Material Supply

73. The telegraph office in Tiflis demands for the community houses of its workers for bed linen, cotton cloth, 1500 meters; there arrived truck tires, 300 sets.
74. Erivan, on 25 February there was shipped to the Georgian Oil Supply rubber, 50 tons.
75. It was reported to the Chief Directorate for Rubber Sales in Moscow that to the tire factory in Kuldmsinsk there was shipped rubber, 375.04 tons.
76. To the rubber factory in Moscow it was reported that there would be shipped on 26 February rubber, 44.12 tons and 27 February rubber, 18.32 tons.
77. The end of February there was sent to NKRF-Gorkij batteries, 6 volts, 12 items.
78. For the NKRF-factory in Gorkij for ship repairs in March and April there was ordered additionally:

NKRF-Gorkij received	varnish	8 tons
	writing paper	0.08 ton

NKRF-Gorkij must deliver by 1 March felt boots, 100 pairs.

79. The following are to be delivered immediately to the Military Reconstruction Directorate of Don-Kuban-Oblast':

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Calcium carbonate	2 tons
Red lead	1 ton
Protective paint	2 tons
Soda	0.3 ton
Household soap	0.2 ton
Hydrochloric acid	0.1 ton
Sulphuric acid	0.6 ton
Carbide	1 ton
Candles	0.05 ton

80. NKRF-Kujbyshev shipped to Irkutsk tire mantles, 38 sets.
81. NKRF must receive complete outfits of uniforms and shoes, 200 and rubber boots, 500 pairs.
82. "Volgatanker" Astrakhan received for the requirements of the Steamship Agency in Krasnovodsk woven material, 10000 meters.
83. An NKRF-Factory in Gurev received with barge "238" liquid glass, 1.099 ton and Manila glue, 1.53 ton.
84. There were procured 140 tons of ice and there are still to be procured 160 tons of ice.
85. For NKRF-Krasnoyarsk from the factory in Sukholoshsk in March there was scheduled 1 car of firebrick.
86. The NKRF-offices in Bobrovka and Novosibirsk must receive according to the March plan from the factory in Sukholoshsk 1 car of firebrick and from the factory in Bogdanovich 1 car of clay.
87. In addition NKRF-Ulan-Ude received from Bogdanovich factory 1 car of fireproof clay.

Oil Supply

88. To the Georgian Reserve Trust in Tiflis for the first quarter there was granted 10 tons of petroleum.

89. The Procurement for Animal Raw Material in Erivan reports

on hand as of 1 December 1942	Ligroin	0.913 ton
	Petroleum	0.01 ton
on hand as of 1 January 1943	Ligroin	0.222 ton

<u>In January</u>		<u>Remainder</u>	<u>In February</u>		<u>Remainder</u>
<u>Received</u>	<u>Used</u>	<u>on 1 Feb.</u>	<u>Rec'd</u>	<u>Used</u>	<u>on 1 March</u>
Ligroin 0.6 ton	0.592 ton	0.23 ton		0.115	0.115 ton
Petroleum 0.1	0.045	0.055	0.04	0.052	0.043
Gasoline			0.04	0.065	0.335

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90. Ka bardino-Balkar must receive shortly

Oil	3 tons
Petroleum	3
Gasoline	0.5

91. The truck base in Kislovodsk has no gasoline. It received from Ordzhonikidze 2 tons of gasoline. It needs 20 tons of gasoline.

92. The tire supply base in Kislovodsk is destroyed.

Timber Supply

93. Tiflis. The NK for Coal of the USSR granted the Georgian Coal Trust from the stock of the "Mangyshlak" Coal Trust 4000 cu. meters of mine timber.

94. The timber was brought to the Saritash harbor; however, it could not be shipped to Baku because of tonnage deficiency.

95. The Georgian Power Stations received in the first quarter

Log timber	300 cu. meters
Masts	300 cu. meters

96. The NK for the Food Industry in North Osetia requires for reconstruction work

Construction timber	5 cars
Sawn timber	2 cars

Production

97. Erivan. In the second quarter the Armenian Industry can deliver to the Red Army 100 vehicles and 100000 horseshoes. Since iron is lacking in Armenia, since transportation is difficult, and since there is only a small supply of wood, an increase in production is impossible.

98. In the work at "Akula" workers and instruments are lacking. In case of need the NKRF factory in Saratov must guarantee additional aid.

99. Because of coke deficiency in Chardzhou-NKRF the casting of a mazut oven (ship plant) can not proceed.

Transport Situation

100. NKRF-Gorkij announces the amounts of freight on railroads as of 26 February as follows:

In Rybinsk	Oats	2102 tons
	Hay	80
	13
	Misc. goods	264

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In Yaroslavl	Hay	9 tons
	Cotton	8
	Bread grains	653
In Gorkij	Wood freight	3437
	Bread grains	739
	Metals	954
	Chemicals	570
	Metal products	404
	Raw leather	316

101. Pervouralsk announces to the factory "Kirov" in Tiflis that the shipment of pipe 140x109 by railroad will be halted because of insufficient availability of cars.

102. NKRF-Chardzhou reports to Moscow concerning the need for cars in April:

in March there are to arrive in Farab according to plan:

including	Transit goods	257 cars
	Fibers	200
	Cocoon	33
	Lucerne	9
	Raw leather	8
	Commodities	7

In April there must arrive	532 cars	
including	Fibers	490
	Commodities	26
	Raw leather	10

103. As of 1 March the remaining transit goods were delivered in Farab in

including	416 cars	
	Cotton	316
	Commodities	29
	Raw leather	9
	Bones	3
	Barrels	2
	Utensils	11
	Goods (unknown)	1
	Cocoon	7
	Grains	10

104. Considering the availability plan of cars for March in the amount of 600 cars,

Chardzhou seeks the availability of an equal number of cars for April.

Miscellaneous

105. NKRF-Kujbyshev must deliver the gas motor ships of the Kama "24", "210", "230", "g¹", "g³" wintering on the Middle Volga to the Military Reconstruction Division of the NKRF.

Moreover, the traffic plan of the passenger ships for the suburban traffic of Kujbyshev for the navigation period of 1943 must be reported to Moscow.

106. The NKRF-Party offices in Omsk and Chardzhou are being instructed to arrange active support and courses for political leaders. Two thousand maps were sent to the Omsk Waterways-Oblast' Committee.